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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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Serial No. 10/551,468
Docket No. 2582LN.eh

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**Please cancel claims 3 and 10 without prejudice or disclaimer.**

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for laying a material sheet on a plurality of cylindrical bodies including first and second cylindrical bodies, comprising:

a unit for applying a material web to the cylindrical bodies; and

a conveyor disposed to advance the cylindrical bodies in a longitudinal direction thereof, to, past and away from said unit, the conveyor comprising:

a first section comprising a plurality of wheels for rotating and advancing said cylindrical bodies, said first section being disposed to displace the cylindrical bodies in their longitudinal direction and connect the first ~~connecting~~ a cylindrical body of said plurality of cylindrical bodies with an end of the second ~~a preceding~~ cylindrical body of said plurality of cylindrical bodies which precedes the first cylindrical body; and

a second section comprising a plurality of wheels for rotating and advancing said cylindrical bodies, said second section being connected to said first section and operating independent of said first section, and being disposed to positively rotate the cylindrical bodies about their longitudinal axis and displace the cylindrical bodies in the direction of their longitudinal axis during said applying of the material web, with a desired spacing between edges of the applied material web,

wherein said first section displaces the bodies ahead of the unit for applying the material web to connect the first cylindrical body to the end of the second ~~preceding~~ cylindrical body and permits slipping of the bodies after the connection of the first cylindrical body to the end of the second ~~preceding~~ cylindrical body,

wherein said first and second sections comprise first and second sides which comprise said plurality of wheels disposed on a side of the bodies, the wheels being obliquely inclinable in relation to the longitudinal axis of the bodies for rotation and driving thereof towards, past and away from the unit for applying the material web, and

wherein the apparatus further comprises a plurality of trailing wheels which are provided above and along the bodies at the unit for applying the material web for urging the bodies against said plurality of wheels.

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2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 3, wherein said conveyor further comprises a driving belt and a drive pulley, the wheels being rotated by means of said driving belt extending about their periphery, on which the cylindrical bodies rest and which extends to and around the drive pulley.

5. (Currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 3, wherein the wheels are arranged pairwise and are obliquely inclined for regulating the advancement speed of the bodies.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the wheel pairs in the first section of the conveyor are obliquely inclinable independently of the wheel pairs in the second section of the conveyor.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the drive pulleys for the wheels on the first side of the first and second sections are disposed on a first common shaft and the drive pulleys for the wheels on the second side of the first and second sections are disposed on a second common shaft which is interconnected with said first common shaft, and

wherein a drive unit provides synchronous driving of the first and second common shafts and thereby the pulleys and the obliquely inclinable wheels.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the first and second common shafts in the first section are discrete and separate from the first and second common shafts in the second section in order to permit differentiated driving of the wheel pairs in the first and second sections.

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9. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
a knife which is arranged to cut the applied material web at an end of the bodies after passage of the unit for applying the material web during conveying-off of the bodies therefrom.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
a trailing wheel which is provided for abutment against the first cylindrical body flush with a point where the material web is applied to the first cylindrical body.

12-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plurality of wheels in said first section are inclinable independent of said plurality of wheels in said second section.

20. (Currently amended) A conveyor for advancing plural cylindrical bodies in a longitudinal direction thereof, comprising:
a first section comprising a plurality of wheels for rotating and advancing said cylindrical bodies, said first section being disposed to displace a first cylindrical body of said plural cylindrical bodies in said longitudinal direction up to connection with the end of a second body of said plural cylindrical bodies which precedes said first cylindrical body; and
a second section comprising a plurality of wheels for rotating and advancing said cylindrical bodies, said second section being connected to said first section and operating independent of said first section, and being disposed to positively rotate the plural cylindrical bodies about their longitudinal axis and displace the plural cylindrical bodies in a direction of their longitudinal axis during applying of a material web, with a desired spacing between edges of an applied material web,

wherein said first section displaces the bodies ahead of the unit for applying the material web to connect the first cylindrical body to the end of the second cylindrical body

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and permits slipping of the bodies after the connection of the first cylindrical body to the end of the second cylindrical body,

wherein said first and second sections comprise first and second sides which comprise said plurality of wheels disposed on a side of the bodies, the wheels being obliquely inclinable in relation to the longitudinal axis of the bodies for rotation and driving thereof towards, past and away from the unit for applying the material web, and

wherein the conveyor further comprises a plurality of trailing wheels which are provided above and along the bodies at the unit for applying the material web for urging the bodies against said plurality of wheels.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The conveyor of claim 20, further comprising:

a driving belt and a drive pulley,

~~wherein said first and second sections comprise first and second sides which comprise the plurality of wheels disposed on a side of the bodies, the wheels being obliquely inclinable in relation to the longitudinal axis of the bodies for rotation and driving thereof towards, past and away from the unit for applying the material web, and~~

wherein said driving belt extends around said drive pulley and a wheel of said plurality of wheels for rotating said wheel.

23. (Previously presented) The conveyor of claim 22, wherein the wheels comprise plural pairs of wheels which are obliquely inclined for regulating the advancement speed of the bodies.

24. (Previously presented) The conveyor of claim 23, wherein the plural pairs of wheels in the first section are obliquely inclinable independently of the plural pairs of wheels in the second section.

25. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein an end of the first cylindrical body comprises a first bevelled end, and the end of the second cylindrical body comprises a

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second bevelled end which is bevelled in a direction opposite to a direction of the first bevelled end and is connected by the apparatus to the first bevelled end.

26. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein the plurality of wheels regulate the advancement speed of the first and second cylindrical bodies such that the first and bevelled ends are joined to form a joint, and the unit for applying the material web applies the material web on the joint.

27. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
a plurality of rods, the plurality of wheels being mounted on arms coupled together and adjustable by the rods.

28. (New) The conveyor as claimed in claim 22, wherein said driving belt comprise plural driving belts, and said drive pulley comprises plural drive pulleys, said plurality of wheels being rotated by said plural driving belts and plural drive pulleys, respectively.